

DSL-11 Permanent Vegetative Cover — Critical Area

Purpose

Where establishing permanent vegetation is needed on sites that have high erosion rates and/or conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with normal practices.

Applicability

Applies to accomplish one or more of the following:

1. Stabilize areas with existing high rates of soil erosion by water or wind.
2. Rehabilitate and vegetate naturally degraded sites that cannot be stabilized through normal farming practices.
3. Erosion conditions that are a result of naturally-occurring erosion.

Erosion Requirements

Practice is eligible for cost-share based on sheet and rill erosion or gully erosion. To qualify based on sheet and rill erosion, erosion rates must be in excess of tolerable soil loss; and post-installation erosion rates must be less than pre-installation erosion rates. To qualify based on gully erosion, post-installation erosion rates must be less than pre-installation erosion rates.

Sheet & Rill Erosion Checks: PRE-INSTALL > POST-INSTALL

PRE-INSTALL > T

Gully Erosion Checks: PRE-INSTALL > POST-INSTALL

Specifications

The completed practice must meet the NRCS Standards and Specifications for Critical Area Planting (342), Fence (382), and Access Control (472) contained in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Policies

1. The area must be protected from overgrazing.
2. When critical area treatment is used to address gully erosion problems associated with existing terrace systems located in pastures and hay lands, the following requirements apply:
 - a. Removal of terraces in pastures and/or hay lands to correct gully erosion limited almost entirely to outlets of terraces should be supported by a cost comparison.
 - b. Removal of the terrace system must be supported by visible sheet, rill and/or gully erosion within the pasture or hay land that can be directly attributed to ineffective terraces.
3. ***Cost-share is authorized for:***
 - a. Measures needed in pastures, hay lands, and field borders to stabilize a source of sediment, such as:

- 1) Grading and shaping.
 - 2) Critical Area Seeding. Permanent vegetative cover based on the Critical Area Seeding component.
 - 3) Trees or shrubs.
- b. Assistance to install components that will significantly reduce erosion and maintain or improve the quality of water in a stream, lake, pond, or other water sources.

Maximum State Cost-Share

Assistance is limited to 75% of the county average cost, not to exceed the state average cost.

Map Requirements

A map that displays the completed practice must be scanned and attached as a “Map Document” in MoSWIMS prior to contract payment submission.

Technical Responsibilities

Technical staff has the responsibility for determining the need for the practice, for design of the practice based upon the minimum extent necessary, and to certify that the completed practice meets NRCS standards and specifications within commission policy.

Acres Served

Acreage seeded.

Extent Installed

Acres.

Maintenance Life

5 years.